UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

VERITEX COMMUNITY BANK,	§
	§
Plaintiff,	§
	§ CIVIL ACTION NO
v.	§
	§ JURY
THE TRAVELERS, INC.,	§
	§
Defendant.	§

INDEX OF STATE COURT MATERIALS

No.	Date Filed or Entered	Document
A-1	N/A	Docket Sheet
A-2	04/01/2015	Plaintiff's Original Petition
A-3	04/15/2015	File copy of Citation
A-4	04/22/2015	Affidavit of Process Server
A-5	05/18/2015	Defendant's Original Answer
A-6	05/18/2015	Defendant's First Amended Answer

Case 3:15-cv-01713-P Document 1-1 Filed 05/18/15 Page 4 of 29 PageID 8

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REGISTER OF ACTIONS

CASE NO. DC-15-03725

§ §

§

§ §

VERITEX COMMUNITY BANK vs. THE TRAVELERS INC

Case Type: INSURANCE
Date Filed: 04/01/2015
Location: 95th District Court

PARTY INFORMATION

Lead Attorneys
DEFENDANT THE TRAVELERS INC WILLIAM LANCE LEWIS

Retained

214-871-2100(W)

PLAINTIFF VERITEX COMMUNITY BANK D WOODARD GLENN

Retained 214-871-9333(W)

EVENTS & ORDERS OF THE COURT

OTHER EVENTS AND HEARINGS

04/01/2015 NEW CASE FILED (OCA) - CIVIL

04/01/2015 ORIGINAL PETITION

Original Petition

04/07/2015 REQUEST FOR SERVICE

04/07/2015 **ISSUE CITATION**

04/15/2015 **CITATION**

ESERVE

THE TRAVELERS INC Served 04/20/2015
Returned 04/22/2015

04/15/2015 CITATION ISSUED

04/17/2015 **NOTE - ADMINISTRATOR**

Set for initial dismissal (service/default) June 4, 2015. Notice faxed to counsel.

04/22/2015 RETURN OF SERVICE

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE
04/29/2015 VACATION LETTER

04/29/2015 **VACATION LETTER**

05/18/2015 ORIGINAL ANSWER - GENERAL DENIAL

05/18/2015 AMENDED ANSWER - AMENDED GENERAL DENIAL

DEFENDANT'S 1ST

06/04/2015 DISMISSAL FOR WANT OF PROSECUTION (8:30 AM) (Judicial Officer MOLBERG, KEN)

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

	PLAINTIFF VERITEX COM Total Financial Assessment Total Payments and Credits Balance Due as of 05/18/2			285.00 285.00 0.00
04/03/2015 04/03/2015	Transaction Assessment CREDIT CARD - TEXFILE (DC)	Receipt # 19499-2015-DCLK	VERITEX COMMUNITY BANK	277.00 (277.00)
04/08/2015 04/08/2015	Transaction Assessment CREDIT CARD - TEXFILE (DC)	Receipt # 20421-2015-DCLK	VERITEX COMMUNITY BANK	8.00 (8.00)

Case 3:15-cv-01713-P Document 1-1 Filed 05/18/15 Page 6 of 29 PageID 10

CAUSE NO.	DC-15-03725		Tonya Pointer
VERITEX COMMUNITY BANK,	§	IN THE DISTRICT COURT	
Plaintiff,	9 9 8		
vs.	9 8 8	JUDICIAL DISTRICT	
THE TRAVELERS, INC.,	8		
Defendant.	§	DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS	

PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

COMES NOW, Veritex Community Bank, Plaintiff herein, and complains of The Travelers, Inc., Defendant herein, and for causes of action would show the Court as follows:

Discovery Control Plan

1. Plaintiff alleges that discovery in this matter should be conducted under Level 2 pursuant to Rule 190.3 of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure.

Statement of Cause of Action and Relief Sought

- Plaintiff states as follows:
 - a. The cause of action pertains to a breach of contract and unfair insurance practices;
 - b. The damages sought are within the jurisdictional limits of the Court; and
 - c. The damages sought are monetary relief of \$100,000 but not more than \$500,000.

Parties

3. Plaintiff, Veritex Community Bank, is a banking association doing business in Dallas, Texas.

4. Defendant, The Travelers, Inc. ("Travelers"), is an insurance company, which may be served with process by serving CT Corporation System, its registered agent, at 1999 Bryan St., Ste. 900, Dallas, Texas 75201-3136.

Jurisdiction/Venue

5. The parties are subject to the jurisdiction of this Court. Venue is proper in this Court because all or a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims occurred in Dallas County, Texas. Specifically, the insurance policy at issue was sold and delivered in Dallas County.

Facts

- 6. Plaintiff has a property insurance policy with Travelers that insures Plaintiff's business property, among other things.
- 7. On or around April, 2014, Plaintiff discovered that its roofing system was in imminent danger of collapse and had severe impairment to its structural integrity. The discovery of the structural issues related to Plaintiff's roof followed severe weather conditions in the winter of 2013.
- 8. Plaintiff complied with its insurance policy conditions and filed a valid claim with Travelers, seeking to recover for the damages caused to its roofing system.
- However, although the property was insured by Travelers under the policy at the time the damage occurred, Travelers denied Plaintiff's claim and refused to cover the loss. In a letter dated September 16, 2014, Travelers denied the claim, saying, "[t]here was no evidence of new structural failure that could be attributed solely to the December 5, 2013 weather event or that would have worsened the condition of the wooden roof system, which had already failed structurally prior to the involved December 5, 2013 event

as concluded". Travelers further stated, "the cause of loss was a pre-existing, long-term condition resulting from a material-related deficiency associated with the effects of Fire Resistant Treatment (FRT) chemicals", and that the policy does not cover the "use of defective material or methods of construction, remodeling or renovation [...] unless it is caused in part by the weight of ice and snow."

- 10. Travelers' reason for denying the claim is factually incorrect. The policy covers damages from a collapse contributed, in part, to the weight of precipitation, and defines "collapse" as a non-abrupt event. Further, the exclusions related to defective materials or methods of construction and because of a pre-existing condition does not apply.
- 11. First, Plaintiff presented a claim to Travelers, without specifying the causes of the collapse. Travelers stated at the beginning of their responsive letter, dated September 16, 2014, ("Travelers' Response") summarily, and without substantiation, ruled out the December 5, 2013, weather event known as the "Icepocalypse" of Dallas in the winter of 2013 as a contributing factor to the collapse. Travelers has in no way refuted that the Icepocalypse was not at least a contributing factor, if not the sole factor, to the collapse of the roof.
- 12. Second, the Travelers' Response designated the date of loss as April 11, 2014. Plaintiff never stated the loss occurred on that date. Moreover it is clear from the nature of the damage that it was a gradual, if not latent, event, occurring well before April 11, 2014, and that it was only discovered on April 11, 2014.

¹ Eric Aasen, *Icepocalypse 2013*, KERA News, December 9, 2013, http://keranews.org/term/icepocalypse-2013; Stella Chavez, *Texas Ice Storm Plus Sand*, *Traffic Equals 'Cobblestone Ice'*, NPR, December 20, 2013, http://www.npr.org/2013/12/10/250012718/dallas-struggling-to-dig-out-from-winter-storm; Joanna England, *Post-Icepocalypse blues: How to deal with broken trees in your yard*, The Dallas Morning News, December 18, 2013, http://go.dallasnews.com/news/2013/dec/18/how-deal-broken-trees-your-yard/.

- 13. Third, there is little or no evidence that the collapse/structural failure occurred as early as 2007 as suggested in the Travelers' Response. UBS, engineers engaged by Travelers, states that there was evidence of prior reinforcement of damaged supports, and that some of the reinforcement wood was manufactured within the last "15 years," but that in no way should be used by Travelers to infer or corroborate that the collapse occurred in 2007. The reinforcement wood was apparently used at some undetermined time within the last 15 years, which includes the years when Travelers was on risk.
- 14. Fourth, Travelers makes a few of its assumptions and inferences based on pre-2011 pictures. Any conclusions Travelers draws from these blurred and grainy pictures is speculative and not credible.
- 15. Fifth, Travelers wrote nearly identical coverage for Plaintiff for several years prior to the policy under which coverage is denied. UBS summarily states several times that the weather could not have been a contributing factor without support for such assumption. There is no basis for summarily stating that the ice buildup on any given day was insignificant.
- 16. Sixth, the letter from Travelers fails to acknowledge the following language under the heading "ADDITIONAL COVERAGE COLLAPSE" in section 1 B of the policy, which defines "collapse" as a non-abrupt event:

"A building or any portion of a building that has not abruptly fallen down or caved in, but is in imminent danger of abruptly falling down or cave in, or has suffered a substantial impairment of structural integrity."

This coverage applies in this situation. Whether the roof was reinforced in the past or not is irrelevant to whether this is a covered loss. What is critical under the "ADDITIONAL COVERAGE – COLLAPSE" is the existence of a non-abrupt event, including loss of

structural integrity, that makes the roof an imminent danger of collapse. There is evidence that the roof sustained one or more events that have caused it to weaken and sag over time, leading to its current condition which is confirmed by UBS as imminently dangerous. There is no evidence establishing that the structural failure didn't arise during one of the several Travelers policy years.

- 17. Lastly, there is no probative value to UBS employees' testimony about the structural failure "long-predating" the Icepocalypse.
- 18. Because the policy provides coverage for Plaintiff's property at 10703 Preston Road, Dallas, Texas 75230, Travelers' failure to pay Plaintiff's claim is a breach of contract and violates the Texas Insurance Code. Further, Travelers' failure to pay Plaintiff's claim in a timely manner violates the Prompt Payment Statute². Moreover, Travelers' Response to Plaintiff representing that the policy did not provide coverage is a misrepresentation of the policy and constitute unfair insurance practices in violation of the Texas Insurance Code.

Conditions Precedent

19. All conditions precedent to Plaintiff's claims for relief have been performed or have occurred.

First Cause of Action: Breach of Contract

20. Travelers has breached its contract with Plaintiff. A breach of contract occurs when: (1) there is a valid, enforceable contract; (2) the plaintiff performed, tendered performance of, or was excused from performing its contractual obligations; (3) the

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² Tex. Ins. Code Ann §542.054.

defendant breached the contract; and (4) the defendant's breach caused the plaintiff injury.

- 21. At the time of the loss, Plaintiff had a commercial property insurance policy issued by Travelers, policy number HO660 -2B244552. The policy is a contract between Plaintiff and Travelers. Plaintiff performed its obligations under the policy. It timely paid all of its premiums and provided timely notice of the claim. All conditions precedent to recovery have been performed. As set forth above, Travelers breached its contract with Plaintiff by failing to comply with the terms of the policy and refusing to pay Plaintiff's claims for the damages and costs in connection with their loss. The policy covered the business property, and in particular the collapse of Plaintiff's roofing system, which extends coverage to the events described hereinabove by defining collapse as a non-abrupt event.
- 22. As a result of such breach, Plaintiff has suffered damages in an amount beneath the policy benefits. Plaintiff has suffered damages within the jurisdictional limits of the court.

Second Cause of Action: Unfair Insurance Practices

- 23. As detailed in the preceding paragraphs, Travelers has engaged in unfair and deceptive acts in the business of insurance in violation of the Texas Insurance Code, Specifically, Travelers has committed the following unfair insurance practices:
 - (a) Misrepresenting the terms or benefits of the policy in violation of Tex Ins. Code §§ 541.051(1)(A) & (B).
- 24. Travelers misrepresented that the policy did not provide coverage for the loss occurring at 10703 Preston Road, Dallas, Texas 75230. Travelers misrepresented that the policy does not provide coverage even though they are well aware that the policy

covers gradual, non-abrupt, collapse of a roofing system. In the Travelers' Response, they have defined collapse solely as "an abrupt falling down or caving in of a building or any portion of a building with the result that the building or portion of the building cannot be occupied for its intended purpose". Travelers has intentionally withheld from Plaintiff the policy's additional coverage allowing for non-abrupt collapse. Specifically, Travellers has failed to abide by the language of the policy, extending the definition of collapse to "any portion of a building that has not abruptly fallen down or caved in, but is in imminent danger of abruptly falling down or cave in, or has suffered a substantial impairment of structural integrity". This fact is critical to the policy's coverage of Plaintiff's property because if the Icepocalypse was a contributing factor to the collapse then the damage would be covered. It is clear that Travelers is misrepresenting the policy's benefits by failing to disclose that the collapse of the roofing system can be a non-abrupt event.

- (b) Misrepresenting to a claimant a material fact relating to coverage at issue in violation of Tex. Ins. Code § 541.060(a)(1) and making an untrue statement of material fact in violation of Tex. Ins. Code § 541.061(1).
- 25. Travelers misrepresented that the loss to Plaintiff occurred on April 11, 2014, when they are well aware that the loss occurred before that date. Travelers downplays the Icepocalypse or other precipitous factors so as to remove the point of inception of damages to a date prior to the date of loss they allege, April 11, 2014, and downplay the Icepocalypse as a contributing factor in the collapse of Plaintiff's roof. This misrepresentation combined with the misrepresentation of the definition of collapse shows that Travelers is actively seeking to withhold material facts relevant to the policy's coverage. Therefore, Travelers is attempting to paint a picture favorable to itself by

showing that the loss occurred on April 11, 2014, when they are well aware that it is more probable that the loss had occurred, or began to occur, before that date.

- (c) Representing that services had benefits and characteristics they did not have and that an agreement conferred to involved rights, remedies, or obligations it did not have in violation of Tex. Bus. & Com. Code §§ 17.46(b)(5) & (12).
- 26. In the Travelers' Response, Travelers falsely represented that the policy did not provide coverage for Plaintiff's property. Specifically, Travelers claimed that the policy limited coverage to collapse as an abrupt falling down or caving in of the roof and claimed that the additional coverage did not apply. Further Travelers claimed that the loss occurred on April 11, 2014, and actively sought to draw attention away from contributing factors that would be covered under the policy and claimed damages were due to defects in construction or materials used when it had provided coverage several years prior to the date of loss presumptuously aware of, as they have alleged, defective construction and the use of faulty materials.
 - (d) Failing to attempt in good faith to effectuate a prompt, fair, and equitable settlement after liability for Plaintiff's claim became reasonably clear, in violation of Tex. Ins. Code § 541.060(a)(2).
- 27. Travelers' liability is reasonably clear because the policy clearly provides coverage for Plaintiff's property. The additional coverage extends to collapse as a non-abrupt event. Plaintiff's letter brought this coverage to Travelers' attention but Travelers persisted in denying the claim.

Third Cause of Action: Prompt Payment Violations

28. Plaintiff is insured under a contract of insurance issued by Travelers. Plaintiff suffered a loss discovered in April, 2014, and covered by the policy due to the gradual collapse of its roofing system at one of its property due to significant ice, rain, and snow

storm during the winter months of 2013. Plaintiff gave proper notice to Travelers on April 11, 201. That claim must be paid by Travelers to Plaintiff.

29. Travelers is liable for the claim and had a duty to pay the claim in a timely manner. Travelers did not pay the claim within sixty days after receiving all items reasonably requested and required. Travelers has therefore violated the Prompt Payment of Claims Statute, Tex. Ins. Code § 542.058(a). As a result, Travelers is liable to pay Plaintiff, in addition to the amount of claim, damages at the rate of 18% per year, together with reasonable attorneys' fees. Tex. Ins. Code § 542.060(a).

Damages

30. As a direct result of Travelers' wrongful conduct, Plaintiff has suffered actual damages that are within the jurisdictional limits of the court, representing, within the policy limits, a damages to their roofing system and the repair and/or construction of a new roofing system, all of which Plaintiff is entitled to recover. Plaintiff is also entitled to recover damages as outlined under Texas Insurance Code § 542.060.

Additional Damages

31. Because Travelers' acts and omissions were committed knowingly, it is liable for additional damages as a penalty or by way of punishment under Texas Insurance Code § 541.152(b), up to three times the amount of actual damages.

Attorneys' Fees

32. Plaintiff is entitled to recover reasonable and necessary attorneys' fees under Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code § 38.001 because this is a suit for breach of a written contract, and under Texas Insurance Code §§ 541.152 and 542.060 because this is a suit involving violations of the Texas Insurance Code.

Jury Demand

33. Plaintiff requests that a jury decide this case, as allowed by Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 216.

Prayer

34. Plaintiff asks that the Court issue citation for Travelers to appear and answer. Plaintiff respectfully prays that upon final trial of this case they have judgment against Travelers for their actual damages, additional damages, prejudgment interest, post-judgment interest, reasonable and necessary attorneys' fees, costs, and such other relief which Plaintiff may show itself justly entitled to receive.

Respectfully submitted,

D. WOODARD GLENN, P.C.

By: /s/ D. Woodard Glenn

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

D. Woodard Glenn (SBN 08028400)
wglenn@dwgpc.com
Matthew B. Glenn (SBN 24083077)
mglenn@dwgpc.com
2626 Cole Avenue, Suite 510
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(214) 871-9333
(214) 871-7131 Fax

Case 3:15-cv-01713-P Document 1-1 Filed 05/18/15 Page 17 of 29 PageID 21

FORM NO. 353-3 - CITATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

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THE TRAVELERS INC
BY SERVING ITS REGISTERED AGENT CT CORPORATION SYSTEM
1999 BRYAN ST STE 900
DALLAS TX 75201

GREETINGS:

expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next following the taken against you. Your answer should be addressed to the clerk of the 95th District Court at 600 You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written Commerce Street, Ste. 101, Dallas, Texas 75202.

Said Plaintiff being VERITEX COMMUNITY BANK

Filed in said Court 1st day of April, 2015 against

THE TRAVELERS INC

Suit on INSURANCE etc. as shown on said petition, a copy of which accompanies this citation. If this For Suit, said suit being numbered **DC-15-03725**, the nature of which demand is as follows: citation is not served, it shall be returned unexecuted.

WITNESS: FELICIA PITRE, Clerk of the District Courts of Dallas, County Texas. Given under my hand and the Seal of said Court at office this 15th day of April, 2015.

ATTEST: FELICIA PITRE, Clerk of the District Courts of Dallas, County, Texas

3y______, Deputy CARMEN MOORER

ESERVE

CITATION

DC-15-03725

VERITEX COMMUNITY BANK vs. THE TRAVELERS INC

ISSUED THIS 15th day of April, 2015

FELICIA PITRE Clerk District Courts, Dallas County, Texas By: CARMEN MOORER, Deputy

Attorney for Plaintiff
D WOODARD GLENN
WGLENN@DWGPC.COM
2626 COLE AVE STE 510
DALLAS TX 75204

214-871-9333

DALLAS COUNTY SERVICE FEES NOT PAID



OFFICER'S RETURN

Case No.: DC-15-03725

Court No.95th District Court

Style: VERITEX COMMUNITY BANK

vs. THE TRAVELERS INC

Came to hand on the _	day of	., 20	, at	o'clock_	.M. Executed at
within the County of_	a:	t o'clock	.M. on the	the	day of
20,	, by delivering to the within named	1			

each, in person, a true copy of this Citation together with the accompanying copy of this pleading, having first endorsed on same date of delivery. The distance actually traveled by miles and my fees are as follows: To certify which witness my hand. me in serving such process was

For serving Citation	\$		
For mileage	\$	ofCounty,	
For Notary	8	By	eputy
	(Must be verified if	Aust be verified if served outside the State of Texas.)	

day of

before me this_

to certify which witness my hand and seal of office.

Signed and sworn to by the said_

Notary Public_____County____

FILED DALLAS COUNTY

Dianne Coffey 4/22/2015 1:54:13 PM

Case 3:15-cv-01713-P Document 1-1 Filed 05/18/15 Page 20 of 29 PageID 24

FELICIA PITRE
DISTRICT CLERK

Client# 1541

NightHawk Investigations, Inc. Investigation * Trial Preparation * Surveillance

1,674,722

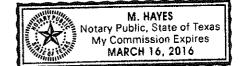
NHI ID:

Phn (972) 222-HAWK Fax (972) 222-9940

Subject:	THE TRAVELER	0 1110 014	0500		Employer
Subject.	THE TRAVELER	S INC BY	SEKVING	5 CT CORP	
Add1	1999 BRYAN ST	STE 900		Add2	
	DALLAS	(TX_	75201) [
ient Info:	D WOODARD GL	LENN		Phn: (214) 871-9333
Attn:	DAVID LUBIN			Fax: (214	871-7131
	2626 COLE AVE		·	_	
	DALLAS	<u>\</u> TX	75204	COURT:	95TH DISTRICT COURT
				DOCKET:	DC-15-03725
			C	SE NAME:	VERITEX COMMUNITY BANK VS. THE TRAVELERS, INC
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					AUTHORIZED BY: TEXAS SUPREME COURT ID#SCHEWHO EXP. 1/31/17 NIGHTHAWK INVESTIGATIONS, INC.
V lanner (of Service:				TEXAS SUPREME COURT ID#5CH86H6 (EXp. 1/31/17
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I, 18 yeautheand o	Personal: By person Substitute at Resider Substitute at Busines Posting: By posting Non Service: After our Substitute at Busines Posting: By posting Non Service: After our Substitute After our Substitute Pars and not a par	nce: By leaving documents in different atternal different attenues	ing documing document a conspice plan to serve action, a	ents at the homets at the office cuous manner to documents, I	TEXAS SUPREME COURT ID#SCH & HO EXP. 1/31/17 NIGHTHAWK INVESTIGATIONS, INC. In or entity being served. The of the person being served with a member over 18 years old. The of the front door or gate of the person or entity being served.

NightHawk Investigations, Inc. Post Office Box 852968, Mesquite TX 75185

Notary Public



CAUSE NO. DC-15-03725

VERITEX COMMUNITY BANK,	§	IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
	§	
Plaintiff,	§	
	§	
v.	§	DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS
	§	,
THE TRAVELERS, INC.	§	
,	§	
Defendant.	8	95TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

DEFENDANT THE TRAVELERS, INC.'S ORIGINAL ANSWER

In response to Plaintiff's Original Petition (the "Petition"), Defendant The Travelers, Inc. ("Travelers") ("Travelers" or "Defendant") files its Original Answer.

I.

GENERAL DENIAL

Defendant denies all and singular the allegations contained in the Petition and demands strict proof thereof.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Defendant The Travelers, Inc. prays that Plaintiff take nothing by this suit, and that Defendant goes hence and recovers costs on its behalf expended.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Wm. Lance Lewis

WM. LANCE LEWIS
State Bar No. 12314560
MARCIE L. SCHOUT
State Bar No. 24027960
QUILLING, SELANDER, LOWNDS, WINSLETT & MOSER, P.C.
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Dallas, Texas 75201
(214) 871-2100 (Phone)
(214) 871-2111 (Fax)
llewis@qslwm.com
mschout@qslwm.com

ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT THE TRAVELERS, INC.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing instrument has been furnished to counsel of record as provided below, via electronic service and/or facsimile, in accordance with the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, this 18th day of May 2015:

D. Woodard GlennMatthew B. GlennD. Woodard Glenn, P.C.2626 Cole Avenue, Suite 510Dallas, TX 75204

Fax: 214-871-7131

/s/ Wm. Lance Lewis

Wm. Lance Lewis / Marcie, L. Schout

DISTRICT CLERK

CAUSE NO. DC-15-03725

VERITEX COMMUNITY BANK,	§	IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
	§	
Plaintiff,	§	
	§	
v.	§	DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS
	§	
THE TRAVELERS, INC.	§	
	§	
Defendant.	§	95TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

DEFENDANT THE TRAVELERS, INC.'S FIRST AMENDED ANSWER

In response to Plaintiff's Original Petition (the "Petition"), Defendant The Travelers Companies, Inc., incorrectly named as The Travelers, Inc. ("Travelers" or "Defendant") files its First Amended Answer.

I.

GENERAL DENIAL

Defendant denies all and singular the allegations contained in the Petition and demands strict proof thereof.

II.

ADDITIONAL DEFENSES

- 1. Defendant denies all conditions precedent to Plaintiff's claims for recovery have occurred or been met, and they have not been waived.
- 2. Defendant is not the proper defendant. It is not the entity that issued the insurance policy at issue.

The Travelers, Inc. does not exist. It is assumed Plaintiff intended to sue The Travelers Companies, Inc.

- 3. Coverage is precluded to the extent the loss was not caused by a "Covered Cause of Loss."
- 4. Coverage is precluded to the extent that the loss occurred outside the policy period.
- 5. Coverage is precluded to the extent Plaintiff seeks reimbursement for the replacement cost value of property that has not been repaired or replaced.
- 6. All or a portion of Plaintiff's claims were caused by the negligence and/or comparative responsibility of Plaintiff, persons acting on Plaintiff's behalf and/or under Plaintiff's direction or control, and/or third parties over which Defendant had no control.
- 7. Defendant is entitled to a credit or offset for all amounts previously paid by any other insurer, if any, including Travelers.
 - 8. Plaintiff's claims are barred in whole or in part by the wear and tear exclusion.
- 9. Plaintiff's claims are barred in whole or in part by the exclusion for damage or loss due to "[r]ust, other corrosion, fungus, decay, deterioration, hidden or latent defect or any quality in property that causes it to damage or destroy itself."
- 10. Plaintiff's claims are barred in whole or in part by the exclusion for damage or loss due to "[s]ettling, cracking, shrinking or expansion."
- 11. Plaintiff's claims are barred in whole or in part by the exclusion for damage or loss due to collapse.
- 12. Plaintiff's claims are barred in whole or in part by the exclusion for faulty, inadequate or defective: "(2) Design, specifications, workmanship, repair, construction, remodeling, grading, compaction; (3) Materials used in repair, construction,

renovation or remodeling; or (4) Maintenance; of part or all of any property on or off the described premises."

- 13. To the extent the damage at issue was caused by a "collapse" as defined in the additional coverage for collapse, Plaintiff's claims are barred in whole or in part because the "collapse" was not caused by a "specified cause of loss".
 - 14. Plaintiff has failed to mitigate its damages.
- 15. Plaintiff's claims are subject to the policy limits of the insurance policy at issue, as well as the applicable deductible.
- 16. To the extent Plaintiff seeks exemplary damages, those claims are barred in whole or in part by the Due Process Clause and the Excessive Fines Clause of the United States Constitution, Chapter 41 of the Texas Civil Practice & Remedies Code, or any other applicable law.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Defendant prays that Plaintiff take nothing by this suit, and that Defendant goes hence and recovers costs on its behalf expended.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Wm. Lance Lewis

WM. LANCE LEWIS
State Bar No. 12314560
MARCIE L. SCHOUT
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Dallas, Texas 75201 (214) 871-2100 (Phone) (214) 871-2111 (Fax)

llewis@qslwm.com mschout@qslwm.com

ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT THE TRAVELERS COMPANIES, INC. INCORRECTLY NAMED AS THE TRAVELERS, INC.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing instrument has been furnished to counsel of record as provided below, via electronic service and/or facsimile, in accordance with the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, this 18th day of May 2015:

D. Woodard GlennMatthew B. GlennD. Woodard Glenn, P.C.2626 Cole Avenue, Suite 510Dallas, TX 75204

/s/ Wm. Lance Lewis

Wm. Lance Lewis / Marcie. L. Schout